



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

*The right system for bright futures*

5/4/2010

The Arizona Legislature ended sine die on Thursday evening at 11:07 p.m. April 29, 2010. Although we will be analyzing the session and the bills that will affect First Things First, the statistics regarding the session are\*:

	HOUSE	SENATE	TOTAL
Bills introduced	788	455	1233
Bills Passed	225	127	352
Bills vetoed	4	1	5
Memorials, Resolutions, etc. introduced	97	71	168
Memorials, Resolutions, etc . passed	25	8	33
Bills signed by the Governor			

\*information as of 5/3/2010

There are a total of 9 Concurrent Resolutions that are being sent to the general election ballot in November 2010 - 3 from the 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session of the 49<sup>th</sup> Legislature in 2009, 2 from the 7<sup>th</sup> Special Session and 4 from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session of the 49<sup>th</sup> Legislature. They are as follows:

- Health care coverage will not be required of Arizona citizens.
- Preferential treatment or discrimination is prohibited on basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin.
- All individuals have a right to vote by secret ballot.
- Repeals the Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board, sweeps the fund balance and sends the tobacco tax to the general fund.
- Reverts the funds identified for land conservation to the general fund.

- Hunting, fishing and harvesting wildlife are the preferred means of managing wildlife.
- Initiative and/or referendum signatures are due a minimum of six months, rather than four months, before the next general election.
- Eliminating the office of Secretary of State and replacing it with a Lieutenant Governor. In the general election the candidate for Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the same political party would run together as a team. This measure would be designated as ballot proposition 107.
- Land exchanges may be made in certain circumstances.

It is expected that two ballot initiatives will qualify for the November 2010 ballot through signature gathering. They are medical marijuana and photo radar enforcement.

There are a few bills that didn't pass - such as HCR 2041 funding ballot measures; reauthorization sponsored by Representative Stevens or HCR 2039 temporary suspension; voter-protected funding sponsored by Representative Kavanaugh. These bills could have affected First Things First.

Items that passed but are still a concern to many advocates are:

SB 1043 Health Care; Programs; Coverage states legislative intent that if the federal government extends the enhanced FMAP through June 30, 2011, the AHCCCS Administration has the authority to spend an additional \$361 million and DHS spend an additional \$24 million in state GF monies in FY 2011 on costs related to Proposition 204. The bill also reinstates KidsCare, but does so with a cap in place allowing NO new enrollees into the KidsCare program.